

THE MNN

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September 2009



Rebecca Landsberry

Letter from the Editor:

Hensci readers! It's a little quiet here at the office without the MNN interns Tiffany Harris and Lee Longhorn asking questions which often require responses I have to look up in my 2004 AP Stylebook (even though it's not a 2009 edition, Lee).

I will definitely miss the enthusiasm, ideas and inspiration they brought to the newsroom, at least until next summer! I have noticed the aspirations of the young help to reignite the passion for what we (I won't call myself old just yet) do and young, active minds help bring a fresh perspective to communication, on both a personal and professional level.

As events go, the Trail of Tears Remembrance Riders will be traveling all the way from Chatanooga, Tenn., to our capitol here in Okmulgee, in order to honor our lost ancestors on the Trail of Tears and their living descendants here in Oklahoma.

The "Warm Mvskoke Welcome" Committee has planned a reception for riders that will include entertainment, drinks and freshly-sliced Hanna watermelon. There will also be a special veteran welcome beginning in Checotah, Okla., at noon coordinated by MCN VASO. For more information on the event, contact Vicky Karhu at (918) 756-5915. For the veteran's reception, contact Ken Davis at (918) 732-7739.

And don't forget to vote Sept. 19!

If you have news, events or story ideas, please contact the Communications Department by phone at (918) 732-7720 or e-mail me at RLandsberry@muscogeenation-nsn.gov

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GATHERING SET FOR SATURDAY, OCT. 24, 2009 AT HISTORIC COUNCIL OAK TREE PARK

by Ruth Bible
MNN Cultural Reporter

TVLSE - Approximately 177 years ago, the first Muscogee Creeks traveled across the land on what has now become known as the Trail of Tears. They brought with them ashes of sacred ceremonial fires from the ancestral homelands in the southeast and these ashes were spread beneath the towering oak tree (now known as the Council Oak) overlooking the Arkansas River. This became the chosen site to establish the Loca Pokv Tribal town, which later became the city of Tvlse.

At 2 p.m., Saturday, Oct. 24, Mvskoke people will come together once again to celebrate the historic meeting held at Council Oak each year helping to remind citizens of the struggles and successes the Nation has survived in the past.

The Council Oak Tree, located across the street from the new Stickball Park, remains a lasting symbol of the city's Native American history and its embrace of multiculturalism. Like the Creek ceremonial grounds, the tree has withstood a few storms over the last century, but remains strong.

In 1832, tribes living in the southeast begun their forced migration from Alabama under orders from the U.S. government.

In 1836, a group of Creeks, along with members from the Choctaw, Cherokee, Chickasaw and Seminole tribes, found the end of their Trail of Tears. As they sought shelter under an expansive oak tree near the



Arkansas River, the Creeks decided to make this piece of Indian Territory their own, lighting a ceremonial fire and naming the land "Tallahassee" or "Tulsi."

In 2007, the state of Oklahoma named the Council Oak Tree an official "Witness Tree" as part of the state's centennial celebration.

Both the park and the tree are often referred to as Tulsa's first city hall. The Tulsa-Lochapoka no longer exist today, however, the site continues to be the annual meeting place of the sixteen remaining ceremonial grounds including Alabama, Arbeka, Duck Creek, Fish Pond, Green Leaf, Hickory Ground, Hillabee, Kellyville (Pole Cat), New Tulsa, Nuyaka, Okfuskee, Peach Ground, Sand Creek (Iron Post), Tallahassee Cromwell, Tallahassee Wykokaye and Weogufkee.

COUNCIL OAK GATHERING
When: Saturday, Oct. 24, 2009
2 p.m.

Where: 18th Street at South
Cheyenne in Tvlse, Okla.
Contact: Tulsa Creek Indian
Community Center
(918) 298-2464

Deadline for OIC Fall Festival Pageant set for Friday, Sept. 18

Ruth Bible
MNN Cultural Reporter

OKEMAH—The Okemah Indian Community will be kicking off the fourth annual Fall Festival Sept. 30 - Oct. 3, 2009. On September 30, at 7p.m. starting with a community dinner and followed by a gospel singing.

The Miss Fall Harvest Festival Pageant will be held Thursday, Oct. 1 at 7 p.m., at the Okemah High School Auditorium. Deadline for entry is Friday, Sept. 18, 2009. Participants must have proof of Creek citizenship and pageant packets may be picked up at the Okemah Indian Community Center and may be returned by mail or fax. A ceremonial dance will be performed on Friday, Oct. 2, followed by the Golf Tournament at the Okemah Golf Course beginning at 8 a.m., on Saturday, Oct. 3. The 5-on-5 Basketball Tournament will begin at 9 a.m., at the Okemah Middle School Gymnasium and Multi-purpose

building. The entry fee per team for is \$75 and registration deadline is Sept. 25 (after deadline cost is \$100 per team). Day of tournament registration will begin on Saturday, Oct. 3, at 8 a.m., with games beginning at 9 a.m. For more information, please contact Toney Lee at (918) 304-7192 or Kara Lee at (918) 716-0343. Also beginning at 9 a.m., will be the Co-ed Volleyball Tournament. For more information, please contact Sharon Hicks at (918) 623-6799.

The deadline for entry to the Rodeo is set for Monday, Sept. 28. For more information, contact Kyle Robinson at (918) 916-9089.

Sr. Bingo will begin Oct. 3 from 10 a.m.-noon and a horseshoe tournament will begin at 9 a.m. For more information, contact Sunnie Marshall at (918) 623-9227 or the Okemah Indian Community Center.

Ballot for General Election to include constitutional amendments

Media Release
MCN Election Board

OKMULGEE — General and special elections are set for Nov. 7, 2009. During the General Election, the National Council candidates and the Constitutional Amendments will be voted on the same ballot.

Precinct and Absentee Registration will re-open for the General and Special Election on September 24, 2009 at 5 p.m.

Absentee ballots will be mailed on October 19, 2009 and precinct registration will close October 28, 2009 at 5 p.m.

For more information, contact the MCN Election Board Office at (918) 732-7684.



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Editorial statements appearing in **The Muscogee Nation News**, guest columns and readers' letters reflect the opinion of the individual writer and not those of **The Muscogee Nation News**, its advisors nor the tribal administration. Editorials and letters must be signed by the individual writer and include a traceable address or phone number to be considered for publication.

Please contact our office for deadline of submissions to be considered for inclusion. **The Muscogee Nation News** reserves the right to edit all submissions for space, style and grammar. Receipt of submissions does not obligate **The Muscogee Nation News** in any regard.

The Muscogee Nation News is mailed First Class from Stigler, Okla., to all enrolled citizens' households upon request and proof of citizenship. Inquiries should be directed to the tribal communications department. Please include your tribal enrollment number with all correspondence.

TO CHANGE OR SUBMIT AN ADDRESS, PLEASE CALL (918) 732-7720 or send e-mail to: wmurphy@muscogeenation-nsn.gov.

Rep. Alexander continues debate regarding tribal travel expenditures

by Sam Alexander
MCN National Council Representative

OKMULGEE — Although my comments in a letter concerning travel expenses were liberally referenced in Chief Ellis' published response, the reader is uninformed about those comments because they were not provided. While such an omission passes for journalism in Okmulgee, some clarification might be useful.



"For a CPA he missed several details concerning my travel expense report." Nothing was missed; the new data was never sent to the legislative offices. According to the accounting method adopted by the tribe, costs incurred in April belong in April's reporting regardless of when paid. The April reporting is incorrect and flawed.

The original focus was the Principal Chief, who possesses absolutely no authority in tribal gaming, suggesting his trip to Phoenix to consult with NIGC officials cost \$198. The \$723 reporting error was misleading made and admitted.

The response also revealed inexcusable trip planning absent hotel arrangements with a pathetic rationalization a college sophomore might conceive. Unfortunately a tribal executive with the foresight to

arrange for lodging some 700 miles away from his home experienced an unnecessary and uncalled for inconvenience.

In summary, there were no accusations of careless spending. The issue was and is deceptive and incorrect administrative reporting of executive travel costs while attempting to showcase National Council travel expenditures. In short, the CPA didn't miss a thing.

The District Court filings from May 1, 2009 through May 30, 2009 are as follows (continued from Sept. MNN):

MCN v. Nicholas Blackburn
MCN v. Christopher Oliver
MCN v. Karolyn Harris
MCN v. Karolyn Harris
MCN v. Alvin White
MCN v. Gregory VanBoren out

Ct. 1: Disorderly Conduct
Ct. 1: Expired Tag
Ct. 1: No Insurance
Ct. 1: Expired Tag
Ct. 1: Expired Tag
Ct. 1: Starting, Turning, Stopping with-

Regard to Safety
Ct. 1: Disorderly Conduct
Ct. 1: Possession of alcohol on Tribal

MCN v. Christopher Fitzhugh
MCN v. Christopher Fitzhugh Property
MCN v. Terry Deshazer out

Ct. 1: Starting, Turning, Stopping with-

MCN v. Maxey Cory
MCN v. John Richmond
MCN v. Carlos Cruz-Sovero
MCN v. Carlos Cruz-Sovero
MCN v. Charles Lambert
MCN v. Gordon Brook
MCN v. Malachi Brown

Regard to Safety
Ct. 1: Trespass
Ct. 1: DUS
Ct. 1: No Insurance
Ct. 1: Expired Tag
Ct. 1: No Driver's License
Ct. 1: Driving Under Suspension
Ct. 1: Disorderly Conduct

MCN v. Malachi Brown Property
MCN v. Cherl Howery
MCN v. Nathaniel Elbert
MCN v. Nathaniel Elbert
MCN v. Hector Arrayo-Velez
MCN v. Billy Cross
MCN v. Sherry Rice
MCN v. Sherry Rice
MCN v. Jerry Stewart
MCN v. Laura Southern
MCN v. Gena Trott
MCN v. Patrick Orbison
MCN v. Lloyd Strickland
MCN v. Nickolis Powell
MCN v. Robert Sisk
MCN v. Carolyn Turner
MCN v. Carolyn Turner
MCN v. Carolyn Turner
MCN v. Arturo Ponce-Rascom
MCN v. Arturo Ponce-Rascom
MCN v. Dawn Johnson
MCN v. Robert Patterson
MCN v. William Jenson
MCN v. Mark Odom
MCN v. Tommy Victory
MCN v. Joshua Walker
MCN v. Joshua Walker
MCN v. William Burney

Ct. 1: Possession of alcohol on Tribal
Ct. 1: Disorderly Conduct
Ct. 1: Expired Tag
Ct. 1: DUS
Ct. 1: No Tag
Ct. 1: Disorderly Conduct
Ct. 1: Expired Tag
Ct. 1: No Insurance
Ct. 1: Trespassing
Ct. 1: Expired Driver's License
Ct. 1: No Insurance
Ct. 1: DUS
Ct. 1: Disorderly Conduct
Ct. 1: DUS
Ct. 1: Disorderly Conduct
Ct. 1: No Tag
Ct. 1: No Insurance
Ct. 1: DUS
Ct. 1: No Driver's License
Ct. 1: Duties in Event of an Accident
Ct. 1: Disorderly Conduct
Ct. 1: Disorderly Conduct
Ct. 1: DUS
Ct. 1: DUS
Ct. 1: DUS
Ct. 1: No Insurance
Ct. 1: DUS
Ct. 1: DUS

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION OKMULGEE DISTRICT

IN THE MATTER OF:

A.H., DOB: 08-23-1998
F.H., DOB: 09-29-1995
Z.H., DOB: 03-10-2001
J.H., DOB: 07-28-2002

Alleged Deprived Children

Case No. JV-2007-03

Notice of Hearing
and
Order to Appear

Muscogee (Creek) Nation to: Thomas Leslie Harjo, Jr.

You are hereby notified that a Termination hearing has been set in the above styled case for the 8th day of December, 2009 at 10:00 a.m.

You are ordered to appear at the Muscogee (Creek) Nation District Court, Muscogee Nation Capitol Complex, Okmulgee, Oklahoma at the date and time set.

FAILURE TO APPEAR MAY ADVERSELY AFFECT YOUR PARENTAL RIGHTS.

PATRICK E. MOORE
DISTRICT COURT JUDGE

Ferrellgas



Special offer for Creek Nation Tribal Members

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Discounted Lease on Tanks •**
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Tribal members will be offered a lease fee of \$50 per year

Am I eligible for this program?

The tribal member must live in •
our service area
Make sure to inform the Customer •
Service Specialist that you are a
Creek Nation tribal member

James Parker - Account Manager
Cell Phone: 918-277-2470

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Session Palen-Cahkephokaken (15th)
2008 - 2009

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Second Speaker: Steve Bruner

Sergeant At Arms: Travis Scott

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Revised: 03/05/09sharr

Committee Meetings

Business / Governmental

Steve Bruner - Chairman
Pete Beaver - Vice-Chair
Larry Cahwee
Selina Jayne-Dornan
David Nichols
Travis Scott
Paula Willits

Meetings: Thursday prior to
Planning Session at 6 p.m.,
in the Council chambers.

Tribal Affairs

Bill S. Fife - Chairman
Sam Alexander - Vice-Chair
David Hill
Adam Jones
Eddie LaGrone
Carmin Tecumseh

Meetings: Third Tuesday
at 5:30 p.m., in the Council
chambers.

Human Development

Johnnie Greene - Chairman
Darrell Proctor - Vice Chair
Shirlene Ade
Ron Cleghorn
James Jennings
Keeper Johnson

Meetings: 1st Monday at 7
p.m., in the Council chambers.

Community Services / Cultural

Cherrah Quiett - Chairman
Roger Barnett- Vice Chair
Terrie Anderson
Robert Hufft
Kara Medina
Lena Wind

Meetings: Second Thursday
of each month at 6:30 p.m.,
in the Council chambers.

2009 MCN voter precinct information

Creek District

- Bristow Indian Community Center
710 S. Main St.
- Sapulpa Indian Community Center
1020 N. Brown St.

Mcintosh District

- Eufaula Indian Community Center
804 Forest Ave.
- Checotah Indian Community Center
500 Owens Ave.
- Hanna Indian Community Center
Last road through Hanna, turn east
and go four miles
- Yardeka Indian Community Center
Eight miles SE of Henryetta (one mile
south of Salem Baptist)

Muskogee District

- Muscogee Indian Community Center
111 South Virginia

Okfuskee

- Okemah Indian Community Center
1100 S. Woody Guthrie St.
- Weleetka Indian Community
602 S. Chickasaw

Okmulgee District

- Dewar Indian Community Center
212 Luella St.
- Okmulgee Indian Community Center
2701 N. Miami
- Twin Hills Community Center
8110 Highway 52

Tukvpvtce (Hughes) District

- Dustin Indian Community Center
Main Street
- Holdenville Indian Community Center
224 E. Poplar
- Wetumka Indian Community Center
608 N. Creek St.

Tulsa District

- Glenpool Indian Community Center
13839 S. Casper
- Tulsa Indian Community Center
8611 South Union

Wagoner District

- Koweta Indian Community
30925 E. 141st St. S

Community Calendar

• Spook Wesley Memorial Gospel Singing

BIXBY — On Saturday, Oct. 3, 2009 the 6th annual Spook Wesley Memorial Gospel Singing will take place at Bemo Baptist Church beginning at 7 p.m. Curtis Kinney will MC the event and everyone is welcome to attend.

Directions to the church are as follows: travel two miles north of Bixby on Memorial Drive, turn west on 131st. St., for half a mile, turn south at the Bemo Church sign and travel an additional fourth of a mile before arriving at the church.

• 2009 Fall Cultural Day set for Friday, Oct. 9

OKMULGEE — On Friday, Oct. 9, the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Office of Child Care will sponsor the 2009 Fall Cultural Day from 10 a.m., to 1 p.m., at the main complex.

Traditional food will be available for sampling along with stompdance and craft demonstrations which will take place throughout the day. The Muscogee (Creek) Nation royalty will be in attendance and the story of the pre-removal of the Creeks will be told.

For more information, please contact the Office of Child Care at (918) 732-7680 or toll free at 1 (800) 205-3705.

• Dewar Indian Community hosts Creek language classes

DEWAR — Dewar Indian Community is currently hosting Creek language classes on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 7-9 p.m., at the Dewar Indian Community Center located at 212 N. Luella in Dewar, Okla.

For more information please call (918) 652-3310 or the MCN Language Program at (918) 732-7724.

• Hanna watermelons still available

HANNA — Hanna Farm Project still has watermelons (black diamond and jubilee), squash, and okra available for sale.

For more informtion or to purchase produce, please contact EC Hessom at (918) 636-1376 or Valerie at (918) 732-7963.

“The Fearless Honkah Hunters”

• AITCO presents the Mahenwahdose production Oct. 16-17 at Tulsa PAC

Media Release

Mahenwahdose

TULSA — The American Indian Theatre Company is announcing the Oct. 16, 2009 premiere of the scary comedy “The Fearless Honkah Hunters,” performed by Mahenwahdose Productions, an original, written by Native American’s Wilburn K. Hill and Winona Henderson.

Hill, a Muscogee (Creek) citizen, who was recognized in March 2009 by the Tulsa City/County Library’s American Indian Resource Center as one of Oklahoma’s outstanding Native American playwrights, will be joined in this endeavor by Cherokee Winona Henderson, who has previously served as Editor of many of Hill’s previous plays.

The acting ensemble of Mahenwahdose will once again fill the cast of the play, with Hill, seasoned actors Jehnean Washington, Hill’s stage partner for the past nine years and a noted music composer, and Mike Buckendorf, who will be starting his fourth year with the group.

Joining the group for the first time will be Arianna Fink, actress from New York City, who has toured with “Phantom of the Opera,” and appeared in

off-Broadway performances such as Ado Annie in “Oklahoma” and Miss Adelaide in “Guys and Dolls.” She also danced with the New Jersey Ballet and

HONKAH Hunters (TFHH), led by a brother and sister team, John and Rachel Elkhair, played by Hill and Washington. Something mysterious

Like many of Hill’s plays, it is filled with the comedic antics his personality and professional training provides, as well as the language, history, music and folklore of the beautiful Native culture he so proudly represents in his writing and stage performances.

The play is being funded by the American Indian Theatre Company, The Oklahoma Arts Council, National Indian Monument Institution, Tulsa Indian Art Festival, Tulsa Performing Arts Trust, and Prescor, Inc.

The play will open at the Tulsa Performing Arts Center at 110 East 2nd Street, Tulsa, Oklahoma on Friday, Oct. 16 at 8 p.m., with a Matinee at 2 p.m., and an evening performance at 8 p.m., Saturday, Oct. 17, 2009. Join the American Indian Theatre Company, Will Hill and Mahenwahdose on October 16 and 17 for a terrifyingly funny time!

Tickets are now on sale at the Tulsa Performing Arts Center ticket office which may be reached by phone at (918) 596-7111 or toll-free at 1-800-364-7111.



Photograph courtesy of Will Hill

Pictured above are Mike Buckendorf and Muscogee (Creek) playwright Will Hill who will star in the Mahenwahdose production of “The Fearless Honkah Hunters” at the Tulsa Performing Arts Center on Oct. 16-17.

Opus Dance Company of Harlem.

The play, which takes place during the season of the big chestnut, Otowosko Thlocko (October), is about an unlikely group of Native American ghost hunters, known as The Fearless

is happening in Indian country, and it will take this crack team of ghost hunters to prove or debunk the haunting of an Inn and Resort in Southeastern Oklahoma that is said to have ghostly occurrences.

“Muscogee (Creek) Nation: Planning for Seven Generations” research survey now available online

Media Release

Laura Harjo

OKMULGEE—“Muscogee (Creek) Nation: Planning for Seven Generations,” the working title of a doctoral dissertation, creates a tribal planning blueprint for Muscogee (Creek) Nation (MCN). This research is independently funded and based out of the University of Southern California’s Geography Department.

The blueprint is not itself a plan but is a guide to the execution of a tribal plan. Integral to the blueprint is “seventh-generational” planning, which integrates unique and specific tribal values into a long-term process, along with sovereignty, self-governance, and cultural preservation. This research is the ground work for a larger project –understanding how MCN can step onto a political world stage with other Indigenous peoples. A thorough understanding of the lo-

cal is needed to capably navigate at an international scale.

In order to assess such long-range planning for Muscogee (Creek) Nation, I will take four steps: 1) analyze existing tribal plans to devise an appropriate planning process for MCN; 2) gather socioeconomic information about MCN’s 11-county jurisdictional area; 3) assess political, community, and cultural issues pertinent to MCN; and 4) gather information about tribal members’ values and needs. Analysis of the results of these four research steps will inform and shape a seven-generation planning blueprint for Muscogee (Creek) Nation.

Step four of the research—gathering information about tribal members’ values and needs is completed via a community survey. A hard copy of this survey was available at the Creek Festi-

val and yielded over 100 responses. The goal of the survey is to determine what is important to tribal members, living both within the jurisdictional boundary and outside the boundary. While some folks may find that some things in the survey might not pertain to them, it still paints a picture of what is important, what does not apply, what questions are absent, and what questions can be removed.

There are four ways to access this survey:

1. <http://www.muscogeenation-nsn.gov> - Click Link: “Survey: MCN Seven Generation Planning” or Click URL: http://www.surveymonkey.com/s.aspx?sm=AmgS5NLFkWFzBpIo_2fwI2hg_3d_3d
2. www.twitter.com/creekcommunity - Click URL: <http://bit.ly/4dnInF>
3. Type into web browser: http://www.surveymonkey.com/s.aspx?sm=AmgS5NLFkWFzBpIo_2fwI2hg_3d_3d

www.surveymonkey.com/s.aspx?sm=AmgS5NLFkWFzBpIo_2fwI2hg_3d_3d

4. E-mail Laura Harjo at: creekcommunity@gmail.com and I will send you a link to the survey.

Your participation in this survey ensures your views are represented. Please be a part of this project and make your views known.

Laura Harjo is a Ph.D. candidate at the University of Southern California. The information discovered in her research will be published in her dissertation and provided to the Muscogee (Creek) National government.



Spotlight: Adult Protective Services

by Joshua Slane
MNN Reporter

OKMULGEE — Everyone knows of the horrors of child abuse and neglect, as well as spousal abuse, but there other groups that are often in a position to be more susceptible to this type of treatment and may often be overlooked.

Incapacitated adults with a physical or mental condition which impairs his or her ability to sufficiently understand, make and communicate responsible decisions about themselves, as well as elders 55 years of age and older are often at a higher risk for such abuse.

To combat this abuse the Muscogee (Creek) Nation would like to inform citizens about the Adult Protective Services Department. This department safeguards anyone enrolled in the tribe though it does not have the authority of working outside of the jurisdictional boundaries.

Abuse is defined as, “causing or allowing infliction of bodily injury, unreasonable confinement, intimidation, or cruel punishment of an elder, which results in harm, pain, or mental anguish by any person, such as the elder’s spouse, child, or caretaker.”

Although abuse comes from a variety of sources, it can come from any person, including the person being abused. Secondly, abuse does not have to be intentional, nor does it have to be caused by bad feelings, but may arise from the best of intentions.

There are four main types of abuse including: physical, sexual, emotional and financial exploitation.

Physical abuse is perhaps the most commonly recognized form, which may occur without malicious intent such as when a caregiver grips an elder’s arm too tightly when holding them.

Emotional abuse is the intentional infliction of threats, humiliation, or intimidation. Emotional abuse may be harder to identify, as it may be done behind closed doors, leaving no physical trace of evidence. It may be used as a form of punishment by caretakers.

Sexual abuse is widely understood any may happen to men and women alike, regardless of age.

Financial exploitation is the

unauthorized and/or improper use of funds, property, or other resources of an elder; or the unauthorized and/or improper use of the person of the elder by a caretaker or by any other person for personal gain or profit; or the failure to use the funds, property, or other resources of an elder’s benefit or according to the elder’s desires.

The Adult Protective Services Department works to fight against each form of abuse, while also opposing neglectful behavior, which is the failure of a caretaker to provide for the basic needs of an elder by not supplying resources, services, or supervision necessary to maintain the elder’s minimum physical and mental health. In addition, self-neglect, or the inability of an elder to supply his or her own basic needs, may include characteristics such as not bathing, eating properly, medical neglect and hoarding.

Generally, though not always, abusers live with their victims and are often the caregiver to their victim and many are financially dependent on the victim. There are

multiple types of abusers, and many of these have the best of intentions but may not be aware of the needs of the person they are caring for. They may also be stressed or overworked and simply not able to give proper care. Others may be well-intentioned but impaired, narcissistic, abusive or sadistic individuals.

According to Adult Protection Specialist Kenneth Bumgarner, MCN APS is not part of the police department or out to “get” anyone, but simply want to put an end to abuse and neglect.

“Our goal is not to disrupt the home, it is to make the home better,” Bumgarner said.

They make things better through working with the resources both within the tribe and the state. For example, if an elder isn’t getting enough to eat, APS may work with the Elderly Nutrition program or with Meals on Wheels to provide food for the elder. APS may also work with programs such as KATS or the Tribal Transit Authority to coordinate transportation for important activities such as a doctor visit in order to get the elder (or incapacitated adult) the help that they need.



Above: The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Community Services Building on the main complex houses the Adult Protective Services Program.

Below: Kenneth Bumgarner works to protect those who may not be able to protect themselves as the Adult Protective Services Program Specialist.

MNN/Mallory Bible

“Wherever there’s a problem, we will find a solution” Bumgarner said.

But the APS department can’t do it alone, they need help from citizens, employees, friends and family in order to be as effective as possible. It is the responsibility of these advocates to educate themselves in order to put an end to abuse and neglect. This includes reporting abuse or neglect to APS. In fact, it is mandated


good faith are immune to any civil or criminal suit based on that person’s report.

Reports should include the elder’s name, address or location, and a telephone number, if applicable. Additionally, contact information for the person(s) or agency suspected of committing the abuse or neglect, along with the name and number or location of witnesses, name and contact information for the caretaker

***“Our goal is not to disrupt the home, it is to make the home better,”
- Kenneth Bumgarner***

by tribal code that such abuse be reported by tribal employees and elected officials. All reports are confidential and reporters who do so in

and a description of the suspected abuse, makes for a thorough report. To make a report contact Kenneth Bumgarner at (918) 732-7869.



Muscogee (Creek) Nation School Clothing Assistance Program

Receipt DO’S and DON’TS

DO:

DON’T:

Turn in receipts within 90 days of the check issuance date.

Turn in ALL ORIGINAL receipts.

Turn in receipts that total the amount of your check.

Legibly print parents name, child’s name and your phone number on the back of each receipt.

Make sure all receipts are dated AFTER the check issuance date.

Make sure all receipts have a date printed on them.

Cut the date off of the receipts.

Write or mark on the front of the receipts.

Turn in only partial receipts.

Combine clothing purchases on the same receipts that you purchase other items on. Clothing items should be all that is on the receipts.

Send cash, check, money orders or coins, etc. in with your receipts.

For questions or additional information, contact:
Muscogee (Creek) Nation
School Clothing Program
918-756-2024 or 800-482-1979

Community Calendar

• Haskell Alumni Association Reunion

TULSA—On Oct. 9-11, the Haskell Alumni Association of Oklahoma invites all Haskell alumni and friends to attend the annual Haskell reunion.

The reunion will be held at the Radisson Inn located at 10918 E. 41st Street near Garnett and 41st Streets in Tulsa, Okla.

For more information contact Flo Spotted Bear at (918) 948-2505.

• C&FS selling chances to win \$200 gift card to fund Angel Tree

OKMULGEE—Muscogee (Creek) Nation Children and Family Services is currently selling chances to win a \$200 gift card to Wal-mart to help fund their angel tree for children in custody.

If you would like to buy a chance to win, tickets are priced at two for \$1.00. The drawing will be held October 15, 2009 and participants mustn’t be present to win.

For more information, please contact Cynthia at (918) 732-7878.

• Shrine Circus to be held at Claude Cox Omniplex

OKMULGEE — The all-new Shrine Circus will be held at the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Claude Cox Omniplex at the Bob Arrington Rodeo Arena on Tuesday, Sept. 22, 2009.

Showtimes for the circus will be 4:30 and 7:30 p.m., and Muscogee (Creek) citizens will be admitted free with their MCN citizenship card and a photo ID.

All children 12 and under will also be free with passes which are available throughout the MCN Complex.

For more information, please contact Dr. Graham at (918) 756-8536 or the Bedouin Shrine Temple at 888-782-8117.

Birthdays

Barbara (Marks) Lorraine

WICHITA, Kan., — Barbara (Marks) Lorraine celebrated her birthday on Aug. 11, 2009 with a theme of “Happy, Happy.”

She is the daughter of Joseph and Rebecca Marks.

Grandparents are John and Margaret Marks.



Reba (Marks) Newman

PORTLAND, Ore., — Reba (Marks) Newman celebrated her birthday on Sept. 5, 2009 with a theme of “Go, Go Grandma.”

She is the daughter of Joseph and Rebecca Marks.

Grandparents are John and Margaret Marks.



Helen (Marks) Sparks

FT. WORTH, Texas., — Helen (Marks) Sparks celebrated her birthday on July 11, 2009 with a theme of “Love Everyone”.

She is the daughter of Joseph and Rebecca Marks.

Grandparents are John and Margaret Marks.



Vkvsvmkv (Esterhakoce) Rose Tecumseh

MORRIS — Vkvsvmkv (Esterhakoce) Rose Tecumseh celebrated her third birthday on Aug. 1, 2009 with a theme of “My Little Pony.”

She is the daughter of Jabaica Lee Tecumseh Sr. and Narcissa Hoof.

She has two siblings, Alize Tecumseh and Jabaica Lee Tecumseh Jr.

Grandparents are Mandrell (Tuffy) Roberts and Isabel Tecumseh.

Great grandparents are Israel Tecumseh and Wisey Scott Tecumseh, she is the great niece of the late Nero Tecumseh.

She is of the Tiger Clan.



Jasmine Keva Washington

OKMULGEE — Jasmine Keva Washington celebrated her third birthday Aug. 2, 2009 with a theme of “Finding Nemo.”

She is the daughter of Brenda Good Voice and David Washington.

Grandparents are Sally and the late Kenneth Good Voice and the late Lillian and Faldo Washington.

Great grandparents are the late Walter and Mary (Yahola) Jones and the late Elias and Keva (Iyotte) Good Voice and the late Martin and Louisa Checotah and the late Wesley and Polly Washington.

She attends the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Child Development Center. She is Muscogee (Creek), Cherokee and Rosebud Sioux.

She is of the Raccoon Clan.



Births

Aubrey LeAnn O'Dell

ADA — Aubrey LeAnn O'Dell was born on March 3, 2009 at Valley View Hospital.

She weighted 10 pounds and 6 ounces and was 20.5 inches in length.

She is the daughter of Jeff and Carissa O'Dell.

She has one sibling, Aris.

Grandparents are Larry and Laura O'Dell and Robert and Rowena Beach.

Great grandparents are the late Harmon Wiley and Anna Lee Wiley.



Taniya Nayanah Tecumseh

TAHLEQUAH — Taniya Nayanah Tecumseh was born July 7, 2009 at W.W. Hastings Indian Hospital.

She weighted 7 pounds and 6 ounces and was 19 inches in length.

She is the daughter of Janeena Birdcreek and Tulle-marsey Tecumseh.

She has one sibling, Brenna Tecumseh.

Grandparents are Janet (McCarter) Birdcreek and Lex Birdcreek and Norma J. (Byrd) Tecumseh and July Tecumseh.

Great grandparents are the late Jessie Mae (Stover) McCarter and Louis McCarter and Edmond Birdcreek and the late Helen Butler and Dave Butler and the late Wisey (Scott) Tecumseh and the late Israel Tecumseh.



Birthdays, Births & Special Announcements!

Birthday:

Roll Number: _____

Phone Number: (____) _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

Date of Birth: _____

Theme of the party: _____

Parents: _____

Siblings: _____

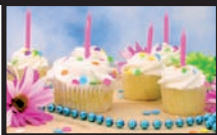
Maternal and Paternal grandparents: _____

Maternal and Paternal great grandparents: _____

School: _____

Clan: _____

Tribal Town: _____



Birth:

Roll Number: _____

Phone Number: (____) _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

Date of Birth: _____

Name of Hospital: _____

Weight: _____ pounds _____ ounces _____ inches

Parents: _____

Siblings: _____

Maternal and Paternal grandparents: _____

Maternal and Paternal great grandparents: _____

Clan: _____

Tribal Town: _____



Announcements:

Roll Number: _____

Phone Number: (____) _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

Parents: _____

Siblings: _____

Maternal and Paternal grandparents: _____

Maternal and Paternal great grandparents: _____

Clan: _____

Tribal Town: _____

Please attach announcement



PLEASE SEND PHOTO(S) To: MCN Communications Dept. • P.O. Box 580 • Okmulgee, OK 74447

Littlehead keeps college eyes on Sequoyah

• Senior lineman is the second SHS player in three years to play Division I ball

by Jason Salsman
MNN Sports Reporter

TAHLEQUAH — A few years ago, Tahlequah Sequoyah head football coach Brent Scott’s office might have been a little more quiet.

He might have been able to concentrate solely on football and not worry about the unavoidable distractions that come with coaching the high school game. The majority of those distractions being the relentless recruiters visiting from big-time college programs. The thing is, there was a time when those recruiters never stepped a foot on the historic all-Indian campus.

That’s all changed now, and coach Scott knows a big reason why. And when I say big, I’m talking 6 foot 3 inches and 315 pounds. That would be the newest rock-star at Sequoyah, monster lineman Chris Littlehead, who recently signed with Mike Gundy and the Oklahoma State Cowboys.

“Chris got 12 offers from Division I schools this year,” said Scott, “so we’re excited that so many big-time programs are in-

terested in our student-athletes here at Sequoyah.”

Littlehead is just the newest prize in what has been a nice run of football talent at the school.

Scott noted in an interview with the *Cherokee Phoenix* earlier this year, that the recruiting interest was sparked by Travis Boswell and his eventual signing with North-eastern State.

But it was “taken to a whole new level” with the recruitment of Nate Stanley. Stanley, a four star prospect and one of the most sought-after quarterbacks in the country in 2007, eventually signed with Ole Miss and will back up Heisman candidate Jevan Snead this season.

The irony is that this renaissance of football is taking place at a school that is no doubt known for it’s basketball success. It speaks to the job that coach Scott and his staff have done, that more of their football players have went on to the Division I level.

Littlehead realizes the importance of more and more Indian athletes making it to the “big-time” in college athletics. He wants to be the first of many.

“All those camps I went to, the guys would be thinking I was Samoan or Mexican,” he said in a recent interview. “But I’m proud to tell them that I’m Indian, because you don’t see that many Indian athletes at this level. I’m

hoping there will be more.”

With his emergence, and the credibility that is building at Sequoyah as a first-rate school, it’s not far-fetched to believe that Chris will be joined by more Indian football stars in the near future. Coach Scott recognizes that his program is in the midst of a special time and there is plenty of interest in what SHS football is all about.

“In all, we’ve had about 30 Division I coaches and recruiters in our locker room this spring,” said Scott. “So we feel fortunate to be the size of school that we are, and getting this kind of attention.”

For Littlehead, a great college football career and a degree await after he finishes what has already begun as a fantastic senior season for the Indians.

After that, it will be up to the next youngster to wow the scouts. But they won’t have to call and invite those recruiters to come down to Sequoyah anymore, thanks to guys like Travis Boswell, Nate Stanley and Chris Littlehead, they’ll already be there.



MONTHS & SEASONS

A	T	P	Z	W	H	W	X	E	X	O	C	S	C	H
L	H	A	W	N	U	O	S	S	T	G	T	B	Z	I
L	I	Z	S	R	E	V	T	O	I	E	B	O	B	Y
C	P	C	W	A	H	S	W	V	H	O	K	F	U	O
E	A	S	A	O	H	O	U	O	L	K	F	O	H	R
C	J	A	C	B	S	C	L	C	A	E	T	V	E	A
U	W	V	Q	K	T	E	E	R	O	L	H	R	R	K
C	K	U	U	A	X	Y	V	J	F	F	P	V	I	K
H	D	C	N	O	K	K	A	R	O	F	V	R	S	O
A	E	Z	F	H	S	P	E	K	S	E	M	R	H	E
S	G	Z	O	O	R	X	Y	H	V	M	D	B	I	W
A	W	Y	W	D	K	E	H	V	S	E	A	H	Y	F
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Y	T	A	S	A	H	C	E	R	A	K	K	O	C	O
O	S	V	F	V	U	C	L	J	Z	M	N	R	E	P






EHOLE
HIYO-RAKKO
HIYUCE
HOTVLE-HVSE
KE-HVSE
MESKE
OTOWOSKUCE

NOVEMBER
AUGUST
JULY
FEBRUARY
MAY
SUMMER
SEPTEMBER

OTOWOSKV-RAKKO
RVFO
RVFO-CUSE
RVFO-RAKKO
TASAHCE
TASAHCE-RAKKO
TASAHCE

OCTOBER
WINTER
JANUARY
DECEMBER
SPRING
APRIL
MARCH

MOVIE NIGHT!




ATTN: MUSCOGEE VETERANS

In Honor of Muscogee Veterans
the VASO will be hosting
“MOVIE NIGHT”
(Thursday, 29 Oct 2009)

ALL BRANCHES

- Showtime - 1800 Hrs. - Thursday, 29 October 2009
- Location - Veterans Building (MCN Complex)
- Movie - **CREATURE FROM THE BLACK LAGOON**
(with Richard Carlson & Julia Adams)
- Drinks - Coke & Diet Coke (Free Of Charge)
 - Chow - Popcorn (Free Of Charge)
 - Smoking Lamp is Lit
- Price of Admission - Muscogee Veterans must wear their MCN Veterans Vest (If you do not have a vest bring in your DD-214 to be measured for a MCN Veterans vest).
- Muscogee Veterans are now allowed to bring one guest (Please limit to only one guest)
- “Movie Night” is for Muscogee Veterans only (Plus one guest)
- Any questions call Shawn Taryole at the MCN VASO (918) 732-7745



Community Calendar

- **Mankiller to give keynote at OU NAS Symposium Oct. 2, 2009**

NORMAN — The Native American Studies program in the College of Arts and Sciences at The University of Oklahoma will host its annual Symposium on American Indian Studies on October 2, 2009 at the National Weather Center.

Wilma Mankiller, former Principal Chief of the Cherokee Nation, will present the keynote address to invited faculty, students, administrators and guests from various Indian Studies programs, tribal governments, public schools and businesses across Oklahoma.

The theme for this year’s symposium is “American Indian Studies in Context” which emphasizes a trend of Indian Studies reform and refinement. Topics to be addressed under this theme include Indian Studies curriculum offerings, student preparation and achievement, Indian Studies research, instruction, and community services.

Indian Studies faculty and students from OU and throughout the state’s colleges and universities have been invited to present papers/panels. Other invited speakers include Tom Holm, professor emeritus, University of Arizona; Henrietta Mann, President, Cheyenne/Arapaho Tribal College; Todd Fuller, President, Pawnee Nation College; Hugh Foley, Rogers State College; Lee Hester, University of Science and Arts; Joe Bohanon, Bacone College; Richard Allen, Cherokee Nation; Linda Sue Warner, President, Haskell Indian Nations University and Dr. Joe Watkins, Director, Native American Studies, University of Oklahoma. The public is welcome.

For more information or to pre-register, please call (405) 325-2312. Registration is \$75 for the public and \$25 for students, which covers the luncheon and materials.

• NORC Field Interviewers wanted

OKMULGEE — A national organization for research at the University of Chicago (NORC) is looking for self-motivated, outgoing individuals to work on a project about 2010 Census Media efforts.

Applicants will be visiting homes within the tribal communities and completing a 30 minute interview to evaluate the effectiveness of the different types of media used by the U.S. Census.

Compensation is set for \$13.18 per hour plus mileage reimbursement of \$.55 per mile. Must ne available to work 25-30 flexible hours per week, including daytime, evening and weekends.

Work will be available during the following three field periods: Sept. 1- Nov. 15, 2009; Feb. 1-March 15, 2010 and May 1,- June 15, 2010.

Two days paid training will be held in Okmulgee before the start of the field period. Applicants must have reliable transportation with required insurance coverage as well as a good driving history. Minimum car insurance coverage requires liability insurance of 100K/300/K/50K. Drivers may be hired for interviewers lacking the coverage.

There are two ways to apply: go online and complete an application at www.norc.org Careers-Field Interviewers-Current Opportunities- Field Operations-Creek/Okmulgee OK.

Applicants can also apply by calling toll free 877-368-6571 to request an application.

NORC is an affirmative action, equal opportunity employer that values and actively seeks diversity in the workforce.

NJOMA offers \$2,500 scholarship

• Chief Ellis honored for his efforts in securing national funding for program

Media Release
National Johnson O'Malley Association

WINDOW ROCK, Ariz., — The National Johnson O'Malley Association, Inc., was formed as a nonprofit, educational organization for the following purposes:

To create an effective forum for discussion of educational and related matters of mutual concern among the members of the educational community.

To mutually develop standards of educational excellence for Indian students served by the educational programs within the United States.

To maintain appropriate lines of communication and collaborative efforts with other public, private, tribal and federal educators and educational programs.

To maintain formal liaisons with Tribal, State and Federal governmental agencies and other educational organizations, including but not limited to National Congress of American Indians, National Indian Education Association and other alliance organizations.

To advocate for Johnson O'Malley Programs and the rights of Indian children from 3 years old through twelfth grade.

Chief Ellis has been one of the driving forces in the fight to maintain the JOM programs on a national level. He has assisted the National JOM Association in speaking to Congress and urging tribal leaders throughout the Nation to take up

the fight for their children's future.

The National Johnson-O'Malley Association is honored to sponsor the Chief Ellis Scholarship in the amount of \$2,500 to a deserving student. This scholarship is given to honor the work of Chief A.D. Ellis not only for the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, but also for his work in securing JOM funds on a national level for JOM programs throughout the Nation.

The scholarship recipient will be announced at the Annual NJO-MA Conference in Phoenix, Ariz.

Criteria for eligibility for the scholarship includes the following:

- Must be a member of a federally recognized tribe (provide copy of CDIB or tribal citizenship card)
- Chief Ellis Scholarship application completed and submitted by deadline.
- A one-page, typed personal statement on your goals and career choice with an emphasis on how the JOM program effected your school achievements.
- Two letters of recommenda-

tion

If you are a 2010 graduating high senior, you must complete the following:

1. Submit a copy of your high school transcript(s)
2. If selected, you must submit your admission letter before scholarship is released
3. One of your letters of recommendation must be from your current high school staff
4. You must be planning to attend a two or four year college or university

If you are a current college student, you must complete the following:

1. Submit a copy of your college transcript(s)
2. You must have maintained a grade point average of 2.75 or higher for the past semester
3. Must currently be attending a two or four year college or university

Applications must be received no later than Friday, Oct. 9, 2009.



Red Ribbon Week set for Oct. 17-25

• Teens encouraged to submit drug-free stories for publication in the MNN!

Muscogee (Creek) Nation Youth Council
Children's Mental Health Initiative

SAPULPA — Enrique "Kiki" Camarena grew up in a dirt-floored house with hopes and dreams of making a difference.

Camarena worked his way through college, served in the Marines and became a police officer. When he decided to join the U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration, his mother tried to talk him out of it. "I can't not do this," he told her. "I'm only one person, but I want to make a difference."

The DEA sent Camarena to work undercover in Mexico investigating a major drug cartel believed to include officers in the Mexican army, police and government. On Feb. 7, 1985, the 37-year-old Camarena left his office to meet his wife for lunch. Five men appeared at the agent's side and shoved him in a car. One month later, Camarena's body was found in a shallow grave. He had been tortured to death.

Within weeks of his death in March of 1985, Camarena's Congressman, Duncan Hunter, and high school friend Henry Lozano, launched Camarena Clubs in Imperial Valley, California, Camarena's home. Hun-

dreds of club members pledged to lead drug-free lives to honor the sacrifices made by Camarena and others on behalf of all Americans. These coalitions began to wear red badges of satin, red ribbons, as a symbol Camarena's memory. The Red Ribbon Week campaign emerged from the efforts of these clubs and coalitions.

Today, Red Ribbon Week is nationally recognized and celebrated, helping to preserve Special Agent Camarena's memory and further the cause for which he gave his life.

By wearing a red ribbon during the last week in October, Americans pay homage not only to Special Agent Camarena, but to all men and women who have made the ultimate sacrifice in support of our nation's struggle against drug trafficking and abuse.

Children have to face many tough decisions in their life. Peer pressure from friends and others can have a big impact on the decisions that they make regarding drugs and alcohol use.

By teaching our children these refusal skills, they will be more con-

fident when faced with tough decisions.

- Say, "No, thanks." It really can be that easy!
- Be a broken record. Tell your child to keep saying no as many times as it takes someone to stop pressuring them, or to stall until they can think of something else to say.
- Give a reason. For example, "That's bad for you" or "I don't want to do that; it will make me sick." Make sure your child can say this with confidence.
- Walk away or ignore the offer. This doesn't work in all situations. Sometimes your child will be alone or in some other situation where they can't just walk away.
- Change the subject or suggest doing something else. By saying, "Let's do _____ instead," your child has the potential to not only refuse the offer of drugs or alcohol, but to prevent a friend from using also.
- Assert Yourself. If your child

can stick up for themselves, they are learning important life skills. Distributed by the ODMHSAS Prevention Resource Center

For additional help or info please contact:

MCN Children's Mental Health Initiative at (918) 224-9307

HEY TEENS, WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU! Have you done something great in your school or community to promote being DRUG FREE?

Submit your story in 150 words or less by October 25, 2009 via e-mail to: Jessica.seachris@creekhealth.org or by mail to :

Jessica Seachris
Youth Coordinator
MCN Children's Mental Health Initiative
9 N. Water, Ste. 104
Sapulpa, OK 74066
Winners will have their story printed in the next edition of the *Muscogee Nation News!*

